

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, August 31, 1903, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Twin Oaks, Washington, D.C. (Sept. 1, 1903) (mailed Aug. 31st.) My darling Alec:

You simply must get that machine to fly. I have been watching a buzzard fly and it looks just like your Oinos, and it goes up and down on the wind without moving its wings. It's the most graceful thing in the world and we surely surely, must be able to do it. No ugly clumsy balloon thing, but a bird. I can not see how you can possess your soul in patience, it is sublime and yet are you too much so? And yet I am afraid to say anything. You are working so differently from all the other men, they seem so far ahead of you and yet are they really? I think not. I can not but believe the strong compactness of your machine must win through in the end. It is built according to nature's law. This buzzard is compact, that is its wings go out aeroplane fashion, but they are all worked from inside.

Here's post. All well. I love you and believe in you and your success.

Mabel. Sept. 1. (very interesting. DeLand)